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|----------|---|--|
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| 7        | Attorneys for the Debtor  |  |
| 8        |   |  |
| 9        | UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEVADA   |  |
| 10       | In re:  | ) Case No. 15-15954-ABL                            |
| 11       | in ie.  | ) Case No. 13-13934-ABL                            |
| 12       | Pierce Development Inc.,  | ) Chapter 11                                       |
| 13       | Debtor.   | ) Hearing Date: November 25, 2015                  |
| 14       |   | ) Hearing Time: 1:30 p.m.                          |
| 15       |   | _ )  |
|          | APPLICATION FOR THE F   | NTRY OF AN ORDER UNDER                             |
| 16       | 11  | O 331 AND FED R. BANKR. P. 2014                    |
| 17       | AND 2016 AUTHORIZING THE  | EMPLOYMENT AND RETENTION                           |
| 18       | OF CHRISTINA THOMAS AS REAL   | L ESTATE AGENT FOR THE DEBTOR                      |
| 19       | Pierce Development Inc., the debtor a   | and debtor-in-possession in the above-referenced   |
| 20       | assa (the "Debter") hereby emplies to this Co   | ourt (the "Application") for the entry of an order |
| 21       | case (the <b>Debtor</b> ), hereby applies to this Cou   | out (the Application ) for the entry of an order   |
| 22       | pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §§ 327(a), 328, 329 and 331, and Rules 2014 and 2016 of the Federal           |  |
| 23       | Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the "Bankruptcy Rules") authorizing the employment and               |  |
| 24       |   |  |
| 25       | retention of Christina Thomas ("Ms. Thomas") real estate agent for the Debtor. In support of        |  |
| 26       | this Application, the Debtor relies on the Dec  | claration and Statement of Ms. Thomas, which is    |
| 27       | attached hereto as <b>Exhibit A</b> (the " <b>Thomas Declaration</b> "). In further support of this |  |
| 28       | attached hereto as Exhibit A (the Thom  | as Declaration ). In further support of this       |
| 29       | Application, the Debtor respectfully represent as follows:  |  |
| 30       |   |  |
|          | ///   |  |
| 31       |   |  |
| 31<br>32 | ///<br>///  |  |

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## **BACKGROUND**

- 1. On October 20, 2015 (the "**Petition Date**"), the Debtor filed a voluntary petition in this Court for reorganization relief under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code, 11 U.S.C. §§ 101, *et seq.* (as amended, the "**Bankruptcy Code**"). The Debtor continues to operate its business and manage its properties as a debtor-in-possession pursuant to sections 1107(a) and 1108 of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 2. The Debtor owns a real property located at 7080 Rancho La Cima Dr., Rancho Santa Fe, CA 92067 (the "**Property**").
- 3. No creditors' committee has been appointed in this case by the United States Trustee.
- 4. The Court has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 157 and 1334. Venue is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409. This is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2).
- 5. The statutory predicates for the relief requested herein are sections 327(a), 328 and 329 of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rules 2014 and 2016.

## **RELIEF REQUESTED**

6. By this Application, the Debtor seeks the entry of an order, pursuant to sections 327(a), 328, 329 and 331 of the Bankruptcy Code, and Bankruptcy Rules 2014 and 2016, authorizing the employment and retention of Ms. Thomas, as of October 20, 2015, to represent the Debtor as its real estate agent. Specifically, the Debtor seeks to employ Ms. Thomas to sell the Property.

#### **QUALIFICATIONS AND SERVICES TO BE PROVIDED**

- 7. Ms. Thomas is a licensed real estate broker in the state of California and has over seven years of experience selling residential real estate.
- 8. Ms. Thomas has been an Associate Broker with Berkshire Hathaway Home Services since July 25, 2015. Ms. Thomas also maintains the following professional designations within her field:
  - a. Bachelors degree in Business Management with focus on Real Estate;
  - b. Won several awards such as Top 40 under 0 entrepreneurs from Modern
    Luxury, Coolest downtown broker award in 2009
- 9. In this case, the Debtor seeks to employ Ms. Thomas to represent the Debtor in the sale of the Property.

## PROFESSIONAL COMPENSATION

10. In accordance with section 330(a) of the Bankruptcy Code, the Debtor proposes to compensate Ms. Thomas at her customary rate, which is six percent (6%) of the gross sale price from the sale of the Debtor's Property, which is to be paid at closing. Or, in the event a buyer's agent brings forth a ready and able buyer, Ms. Thomas will offer 3% of the gross sale price to the buyer's agent from her 6% compensation, which will also be paid at closing.

## MS. THOMAS' DISINTERESTEDNESS

11. To the best of the Debtor's knowledge and except as disclosed in the Thomas Declaration, neither Ms. Thomas nor any member of Berkshire Hathaway Home Services holds or represents any interest materially adverse to the Debtor's estate in connection with any matter in which he would be employed, and that she is a "disinterested person" within the

meaning of section 101(14) of the Bankruptcy Code, 11 U.S.C. §§ 101–1532 as referred to in section 327(a) of the Bankruptcy Code.

- 12. Further, to the best of the Debtor's knowledge, Ms. Thomas does not have any connection with any creditors or other parties in interest, or their respective attorneys or accountants, or the United States Trustee or any of its employees, except as set forth in the Thomas Declaration.
- 13. Should Ms. Thomas discover any new relevant facts or relationships bearing on the matters described herein during the period of her retention, Ms. Thomas will use reasonable efforts to promptly file a supplemental declaration.

#### NOTICE

12. The Debtor has provided notice of this Application by United States mail and, when possible, electronic mail or facsimile to: (a) the U.S. Trustee; (b) the entities listed on the List of Creditors Holding the 20 Largest Unsecured Claims; (c) all parties requesting notice pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 2002, and (d) certain governmental agencies including the Internal Revenue Service, the United States Attorney's Office, the Clark County Assessor, the Clark County Treasurer and the Nevada Department of Taxation. In light of the nature of the relief requested, the Debtor submits that no further notice is required.

#### **CONCLUSION**

WHEREFORE, the Debtor prays that this Court, enter an order as set forth in the order attached hereto as **Exhibit B**: (i) authorizing the Debtor to employ and retain Christina Thomas as its real estate agent according to the terms and conditions set forth in this Application; and (iii) granting such other and further relief as is just and proper.

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Dated this 21st day of October, 2015. /s/Samuel A. Schwartz Samuel A. Schwartz, Esq. Nevada Bar No. 10985 Bryan Lindsey, Esq. Nevada Bar No. 10662 Schwartz Flansburg PLLC 6623 Las Vegas Boulevard South, Suite 300 Las Vegas, Nevada 89119 Telephone: (702) 385-5544 Facsimile: (702) 385-2741 Attorneys for the Debtor